

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brett Valiquet on January 20, 2011.

Claim 93 now read as the following:

93. A control system for a printing or copying system, comprising:

a first printer and a second printer;

at least one operating unit for input and output of operating information of the printing or copying system and which is connected via an external network connection with said first printer in which is provided a first control unit that controls the first printer, and comprises a control panel server internal to said first printer which the at least one operating unit accesses as a client to output control data from the first printer containing internal control variables of said first printer not otherwise accessible by the operating unit;

graphical elements of a graphical user interface stored in a memory of the first printer, said graphical elements being transferred into the at least one operating unit and loaded there for display;

the first printer comprising an internal network;

the control panel server being connected via said internal network with a network agent via which a data exchange takes place with a plurality of sub- controllers of said first printer;

Art Unit: 2625

at least one second control unit in the second printer which controls a plurality of sub-controllers of said second printer;

a data line via which the first and second control units are connected with one another and via which the control data is transferred from said first control unit to said second control unit with aid of a data transfer protocol;

the at least one operating unit outputting the control data in addition to the operating information, the control data also being ~~useful~~ used to set system parameters of the second printer;

the first and the second control units containing a distributed object model with objects aiding access to the operating information and to the control data; and values of the internal control variables being output from the first printer with aid of the at least one operating unit, the values being administered with aid of a management information base.

Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance is stated below.

Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance for Claims 93-103 is stated below.

Regarding independent Claims 93 and 103, the Examiner found neither prior art cited in its entirety, nor based on the prior art, found any motivation to combine any of the said prior art that teaches:

at least one operating unit for input and output of operating information of the printing or copying system and which is connected via an external network connection with said first printer in which is provided a first control unit that controls the first printer, and comprises a control panel server internal to said first printer which the at least one operating unit accesses as a client to output control data from the first printer containing internal control variables of said first printer not otherwise accessible by the operating unit;

Art Unit: 2625

the at least one operating unit outputting the control data in addition to the operating information, the control data also being used to set system parameters of the second printer;

The dependent claims are allowable due to its dependence to the independent claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MING HON whose telephone number is (571)270-5245. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:30 to 6:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Y. Poon can be reached on (571)272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/King Y. Poon/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/M. H./
Examiner, Art Unit 2625